

**POLICE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF MEETING**

**NOVEMBER 18, 2021**

**CONNECTICUT POLICE ACADEMY  
MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT**

**285 Preston Avenue & Via Zoom  
Meriden, CT**

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**Council Members Present:** Town Administrator Michael Freda; Mr. Michael Lawlor; Chief Keith Mello; Chief Roberto Rosado; Chief Vernon Riddick; Chief James Viadero; Mr. Jonathan Slifka; Chief Scott Sansom; Chief Ronnell Higgins; Chief Paul Melanson; Mr. Douglas Glanville; Mr. Anderson Curtis; Captain Mark Davison; Commissioner James Rovella; Mr. Iran Nazario; Chief Fernando Spagnolo; Special Agent- In-Charge David Sundberg and Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo.

**Other Attendees:** Academy Administrator Karen Boisvert; Attorney Colin Milne, DESPP Legal; Barbara Fullenwiley (POSTC) Administrative Staff; Carrie Jo McGuffey, Certification Officer;

**Council Members Absent:** Ms. Pamela Mautte; Ms. Patricia Rehmer.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chief Keith Mello, POST Council Chairman, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

***ACTION ITEMS***

1. Approval of the Minutes:
  - August 12, 2021, Special Meeting
  - September 16, 2021, Regular Meeting

Chief Mello requested a motion to individually accept the Minutes of the August 12, 2021 Special Meeting and September 16, 2021 Regular Meeting as submitted. Motion to accept both minutes made by Chief James Viadero; seconded by Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

2. Chiefs/Public Comment: None

## **CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE**

### **Request for Comparative Certification**

1. TORRES, NELSON – Groton Town Police Department
2. KLAPACH, EDWARD – Waterbury Police Department
3. COBURN, DAVID – Enfield Police Department
4. BAY, NICHOLAS – Fairfield Police Department
5. ELLIS, DANIELLE – Enfield Police Department
6. ERIC, PANGARO – Enfield Police Department
7. NUCOLO, ANTHONY – Guilford Police Department
8. HYVARINEN, BARRY – Newtown Police Department

### **Recommended Motion for Comparative Certification for 1 thru 8**

Chief Ronnell Higgins requested a motion to approve the request for comparative certification for the (8) eight officers; seconded by Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

Chief Keith Mello requested an amendment to add to the agenda under old business number 4 Pursuit policy amendment #4 under old Business. Motion made by Chief Viadero; seconded by Chief States Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

### **Request for Reactivation of Certification**

1. NYENHUIS, SABINE – Old Saybrook Police Department

Motion made by Chief Ronnell Higgins that reactivation be accepted by the Council; seconded by Chief State's Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

Discussion: Mr. Douglas Glanville asked if this the was a forfeited officer trying to get reinstated. Chief Higgins stated this involves a previously certified police officer who retired and wanted to be reinstated due to certification lapse. POST staff did a review of her file to determine what classes she would be required to take to renew certification. Motion passes.

### **Request for Basic Training One-year Probationary Extensions**

1. ROSSOMANDO, RONALD – West Haven Police Department
2. BISTOLAS, LLIAS – Connecticut State Police

The Certification Committee received two requests for one-year probationary extension from Basic training, the West Haven Police Department and Connecticut State Police. Based on review of information presented, Chief Higgins made a motion that these two officers' extensions be extended; seconded by Chief James Viadero. Motion passes.

Discussion: Mr. Mike Lawlor asked if the committee was provided with background information. Chief Ronnell Higgins stated that they were provided full files of each individual. Motion passes.

#### Revocation of Police Officer Certifications

1. PEREZ, Armando J. – Bridgeport Police Department
2. GAMARRA, Gary E. – New Haven Police Department

Chief Ronnell Higgins stated that the Certification Committee did hear two requests for Revocation of certification, one from the Bridgeport Police Department and one from the New Haven Police Department. Based on information provided, Chief Ronnell Higgins recommends that both certifications be revoked; seconded by Chief State’s Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

#### Basic Training Academy Applications

1. Hartford Police Academy

Chief Ronnell Higgins recommended that the Council grant approval to the Hartford Police Department for a Basic Training Police Academy; seconded by Chief State’s Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

2. Connecticut State Police

Chief Higgins deferred to Academy staff on behalf of the application for the CT State Police. Administrator Boisvert requested a waiver on behalf of CSP for part of the curriculum. Replace EMR with a robust first aid/CPR course for the class currently in session and the class starting in May. Motioned made by Chief State’s Attorney Richard Colangelo to accept the waiver; Seconded by Chief Roberto Rosado. Motion passes.

Chief Ronnell Higgins recommends that the Connecticut State Police be granted application for Basic Training academy with modifications; Seconded by Chief State’s Attorney Richard Colangelo. Motion passes.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Academy Administrator’s Report – written report submitted

Academy Administrator welcomed two new hires:

Andy Weaver – Part time/Per diem Instructor

Brian Enns -Field Program Consultant starting on 12/17/2021

## Subcommittee Reports

### Accreditation Committee -

Curriculum Committee – Administrator Boisvert requested modifications to be approved.

- 105 Community Research Project - add 6 hours and new instructor criteria
- 205 Immigration – add trust act and guidelines
- 628 Offender Base Tracking System (OBTS) – change name to CT Information Sharing System; add 3 hours; update goals and objectives

Chief State’s Attorney Colangelo made a motion to accept the modifications to the curriculum; seconded by Chief Viadero. Motion passes.

2. Correspondence – None
3. Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation – Former POSTC Members
4. 2022 Council schedule to include subcommittees

### OLD BUSINESS

1. Body Worn Camera Policy Amendment  
Chief Melanson reviewed the law changed as of October 1, 2021, Public Act 21-33. Policy updates were reviewed to reflect the new law. Chief Melanson made a motion to eliminate section C&D in the packet highlighted and in lieu of replace with the new statutorily language; seconded by Chief Viadero. Motion passes.
2. Cannabis guidance in excess of legal limit document - Administrator Boisvert to send out a general notice with links that training officers can use that provide more information.
3. Crowd Control Policy – Council Approval to move forward. Chief Mello requested a motion to accept and move the crowd control policy forward as written. Motion made by Chief Viadero; seconded Chief State’s Attorney Colangelo. Motion passes.
4. Pursuit Policy Amendment, Chief Riddick discussed clarifying language regarding use of force stop procedures. Chief Riddick went into a detailed discussion regarding pursuit prevention. Motion made by Chief Vernon Riddick to consider new language presented to council in an email; seconded by Mr. Mike Lawlor.  
Discussion: Mike Lawlor asked about prophylactics deploying stop stick if trying to leave. Exceptions and supervisory approval were discussed. Motion passes

### NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion – feasibility of a statewide towing policy  
Chief Mello spoke to an incident where a vehicle was in pursuit which was a car jacking and because it was being towed, it was chased in one town to another and lasted 4 hours. The vehicle in custody of owner but not watched by police and some gun fire

between thieves and owner of car, no one hurt, and some vehicles hit. Chief of town and Legislator contacted on who is responsible to stay with vehicle. Continued discussion statewide and regional levels on responsibility. No motion on this incident. This body is not the one to handle this issue.

2. EMR – Basic curriculum test requirement change.  
Administrator Boisvert stated OEMS changed the testing procedure for EMR. POSTC Instructors can no longer proctor the cognitive test. Administrator Boisvert requested removing the cognitive test of EMR from the basic training requirement. Motion to make changes by Chief Viadero seconded by Chief State’s Attorney Richard Colangelo.

Discussion: How many agencies keep MRTs after, approximately 61 agencies require EMR level. A general notice will be sent out to agencies notifying agencies of the change. Motion passes.

3. Presentation Certificates of Appreciation to former Council members.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT – 10:09 am.

Motioned by Chief State’s Attorney Richard Colangelo to adjourn; seconded by Chief James Viadero.

Prepared by Barbara Fullenwiley 12/17/21

BF: bf